

ABSTRACT

Devices, softwares and methods for prioritizing between voice data packets for
5 discard decision purposes. A perceptual importance of a voice data packet relative to the
others is determined at encoding, preferably according to the content of the encoded
sound. The relative importance is represented as a comparative discardability code in the
packet. If a discard decision is made, it takes into account the comparative discardability
code of the packet, thus preferring to discard the unimportant packets more frequently.

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continued